

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

ACTION COPY

54-52

SECRET

Action

Control: 6189
Rec'd:

EUR

MARCH 10, 1959
5:06 PM

Info

RMR

SS

W

G

SP

C

L

IO

INR

H

PX

FROM: LONDON
TO: Secretary of State
NO: 4671, MARCH 10, 6 PM

~~URG~~

(file)
Answered 3/10
EUR/EER/MAR 10

SENT DEPARTMENT 4671, REPEATED INFORMATION PARIS 727, BONN 301, CN
BERLIN 97, MOSCOW 196

LIMIT DISTRIBUTION

MOSCOW TELEGRAM 1774

AMBASSADOR THOMPSON IN HIS 1774 TO DEPT HAS DEVELOPED
PERSUASIVE CASE FOR PROPOSING SUMMIT RATHER THAN FOREIGN
MINISTERS' MEETING, ESPECIALLY ARGUMENT AGAINST PREMATURELY
SHOWING OUR HAND AT FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING. ONLY
COMMENT WHICH OCCURS TO US IS THAT IF, AS WE IMAGINE, A
SUMMIT MEETING WOULD BE MORE CONVENIENT FOR US IN JULY
OR AUGUST AND IT IS THUS NECESSARY TO PLAY FOR TIME,
ACCEPTANCE OF BOTH FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING AND SUMMIT
MEETING AS BRITISH HAVE PROPOSED (EMBTEL TO DEPT 4654)
WOULD BEST ACCOMPLISH THIS PURPOSE. THIS WOULD ALSO PROVIDE
SOLUTION FOR PROBLEM OF AGENDA. ACCEPTANCE OF SUMMIT
MEETING AS WELL AS FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING COULD INCLUDE
FORMULATION OF AGENDA ACCEPTABLE TO US THUS OBVIATING
NECESSITY FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREEING ON AGENDA. I
SHOULD THINK PRESSURE ON SOVIETS TO ACCEPT REASONABLE
AGENDA WOULD BE GREATER IF EXERCISED IN CONJUNCTION WITH
WESTERN PROPOSAL OF BOTH SUMMIT AND FOREIGN MINISTERS'
MEETING RATHER THAN IF LEFT TO FOREIGN MINISTERS'
MEETING. THIS PRESUPPOSES WILLINGNESS ON PART OF WEST TO
ACCEPT SUMMIT MEETING REGARDLESS OF WHETHER OR NOT
FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING PRODUCES RESULTS PROMISING SO
FAR AS PROSPECTS SUMMIT CONFERENCE CONCERNED. IN MY
OPINION, HOWEVER, BRITISH PUBLIC OPINION AND PROBABLY
WESTERN OPINION IN GENERAL WOULD IN ANY CASE, AS AMBASSADOR
THOMPSON SUGGESTS, DEMAND SUMMIT MEETING BEFORE FINAL
SHOWDOWN ON BERLIN.

CAA

SECRET

Copy No (5) 11
Destroyed in 1972
Date 4/6/59

PERMANENT

RECORD *KO 130* • This copy must be returned to RM/R central files v

SECRET

WHITNE

DEC 1959
Authority 17120407436
By *[Signature]* P-25-91